# Lead Exposure from Exide

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# Main points on Exide Closure and Cleanup Plans

- \* Exide, though shut down, still presents a serious potential threat to the community through lead deposition and historic contamination.
- \* The Exide Closure Plan will not cleanup the site.
- \* Exide has a long history of leaving contamination behind at its facilities across the U.S.
- \* The pace of the residential cleanup is woefully slow-additional resources are needed to keep children out of harm's way.

# Centers for Disease Control-No safe level of exposure to Pb- lead

- \* Their (CDC) report stresses aggressive primary prevention, or stopping the problem before it becomes one, as the key approach.
- Because many of the effects of lead on young children are irreversible, they have troubling implications for the potential children will reach as adults. They stress that the only way to avoid the dangerous health consequences of lead poisoning in children is to stop exposing them to environmental lead.

### The Tale of Two Pollutants

#### Mercury

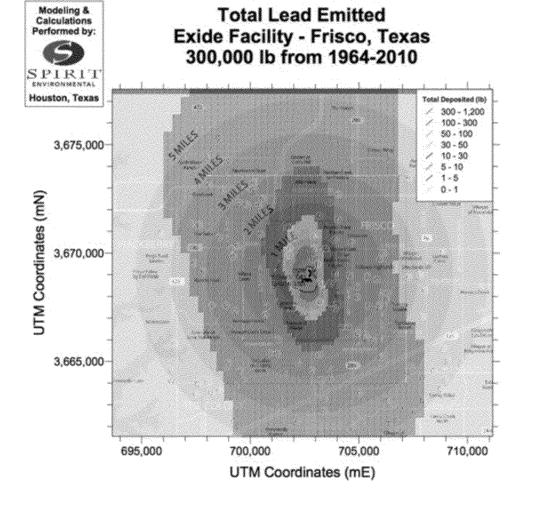
- Exposure recognized as harmful in 1800s-Mad Hatter Disease
- Mercury consumption advisories for fish-1980
- Exposures recognized to be harmful to the developing brain-2000
- \* Export ban enacted in 2007
- \* International Treaty signed-Minamata, Japan 2014
- \* Soil screening level-18ppm

#### Lead

- Exposures recognized as harmful 2000 years ago
- Lead poisoning prevention efforts began in U.S.-1970
- Lead seen as a global pollutant rising in surface soils-1975
- \* No Export ban
- No international treaty seeking global reductions
- \* Soil screening level-80ppm

## Exide in Frisco, Texas

- \* 1963-1969 Lead Oxide Manufacturing Plant
- \* 1969-2012 Operated as Lead Smelter
- \* November 2012 Exide Lead Smelter Closed
- \* June 2015 Exide found to have mishandled and improperly treated hazardous waste.
- \* January 2015 Extensive Contamination has been Identified Offsite

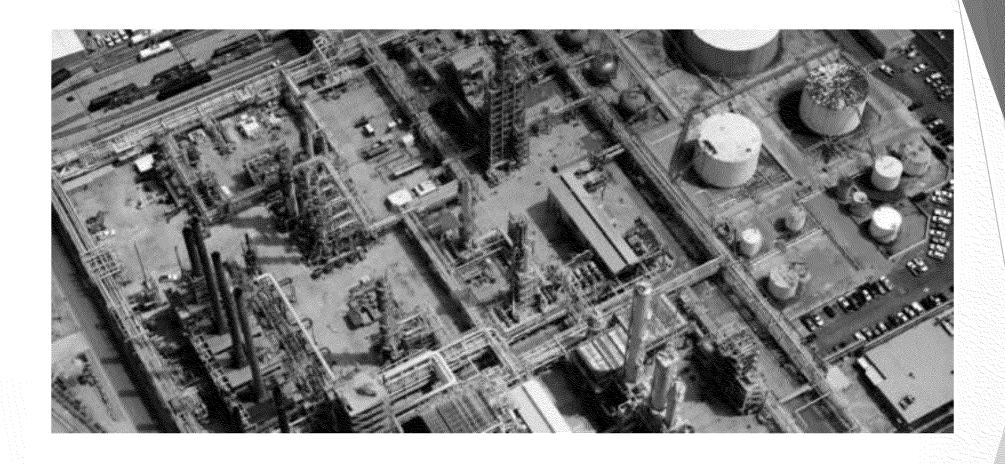


#### Lead Fallout Map from Exide in Frisco, Texas

The Frisco, Texas facility is estimated to have emitted over 300,000 pounds of lead into the community during its operating history. Its waste remains onsite.

## Baton Rouge, Louisiana

- \* 1960- facility constructed
- \* 1999-facility purchased by Exide
- 2009-facility stopped production due to downturn
- \* 2014-Louisiana closes the facility
- \* 2016-Closure Plan-the facility has two hazardous waste landfills on site, the bayou runs through the facility and Exide is asking the state to allow them to cap the facility in its latest closure plan documents.



#### Exide-Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Exide plans to demolish the structures and cap the facility. There are two old hazardous waste impoundments and the bayou runs through the land.

Exide's facility in Connecticut started operation in 1951, was shut down in 1981, underwent a partial cleanup in 1985, tore down its plant in 2005, and in 2012 was ordered by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Quality to dredge lead out of Mill Creek after fish consumption advisories for fish were posted.

# **Exide-Connecticut**

1912- smelter constructed

1987- Exide purchases smelter

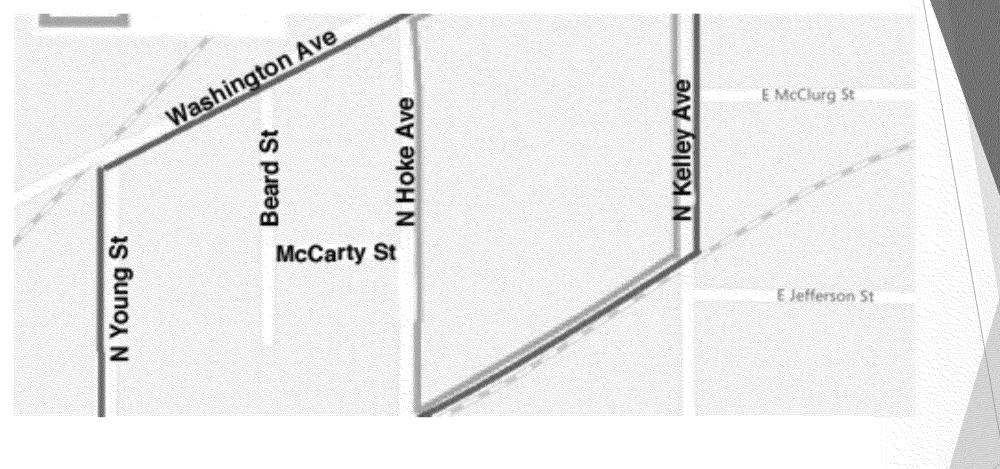
1999- Exide ceases operation

2012- buildings torn down at the insistence of the city of Frankfort 2015-soil contamination remediated through a time-critical removal action by federal EPA

Frankfort, Indiana

# Pre-CERCLIS Screening Assessment September 2012 Frankfort, IN

\* "There have been several investigated complaints against Exide Corporation in Frankfort. Past complaints against the facility include alleged dumping of scrap batteries and acid in a 30-foot deep pit (1997), burying of scrap batteries into holes that were covered by concrete (2002), and fugitive dust dispersing into nearby neighborhoods during demolition (2012). During the investigation to evaluate fugitive dust issues in April 2013, it was noted that the demolition of the facility was complete."



#### Frankfort, Indiana

Yellow area is the former Exide facility, the red outline is the site of the time critical removal action by USEPA at this facility.

1930-lead smelter began operations 2000-USEPA orders offsite investigation of lead contamination, over 600 homes tested, local park closed due to contamination 2007-EPA allows 650ppm to become the cleanup standard, only 150 homes are cleaned. 2010-County sues to stop issuance of Exide air permits by state March 31, 2012- Exide closes plant January 2015- significant community concern regarding ongoing exposures to Exide's legacy pollution.

# Laureldale, Pennslyvania

#### Some Conclusions on the Closure Plan

- \* Exide has a consistent pattern of closing facilities after local governments shut them down, but leaving vast amounts of toxic waste behind.
- \* This waste serves as a reservoir of contamination for the neighborhoods already adversely impacted from Exide's operation.
- \* The Closure Plan is, in many ways, a huge distraction from what should be effort to get people out of harm's way.

# In Summation: Mayor Chris McBarnes, Frankfort, IN

\* "This factory shut down when I was about 4 or 5 years old," he said. "I have no connection to the Exide [Technologies]. I don't know any of these individuals — I've never even met them personally — but [we have to have the] will to hold their feet to the fire ... "